



THE MILL WHEEL



Rotary Club of Mill Valley
Founded June 7, 1926 • "Service Above Self"
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<http://millvalleyrotary.org>
District Web Site: www.rotary5150.org



GREETER

■ **Karen Buckter**. She had the following wisdom: *And if California slides into the ocean - like the mystics and statistics say it will - I predict this motel will be standing until I pay my bill.* - **Warren Zevon**.

BIRTHDAYS

■ **Ray Palmarini** will celebrate his birthday at home on a very special day, Feb. 7th - Super Bowl Sunday!

ANNIVERSARIES

■ **Club**: PP **Richard Rider** has been a member for 21 years (2/8/94), his sponsor being PP **Greg Dyer**. One of his fondest memories was serving as president during 2008-2009, as well as attending some special dinners organized by the club.

■ **Keith Papulias** also wanted to be mentioned for his 15 years of membership (1/30/01). Everybody has enjoyed his tasty barbecues at many important Rotary functions.

GOOD TIMES

■ **Stephanie Ricardo** is finally back from a prolonged absence. She injured her knee during an unfortunate landing while sky diving. May this count as a good time? Perhaps the beginning but not the end.



► Smiles abound as Karen Buckter greets Don Bowden.

■ **Jane Hall** returned from building houses for underprivileged families in Lampang, Thailand.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

■ President **Ken Brooks** informed us that the dictionary project is



► Look who Margareth found—welcome back, Stephanie! Steph, Please pack your parachute a little more carefully next time.

moving along nicely, the last part being delivery to the schools. **Cyndi Moore** will handle the scheduling of volunteers.

■ PP **Susan Royce** reminded us of the upcoming mixer with the Chamber of Commerce on Feb. 16th, from 5:30 to 7:00 pm. Members are encouraged to bring finger food.

■ PE **Kent Campbell** asked for volunteers for the Rotary District Assembly meeting at Redwood High School on March 19th.

■ Foundation Chair **Bob Roberts** reported of the progress the Peace Corps is making in building toilets and providing a nutritional program for woman. Our club's contributions are appreciated.

■ **Donna D'Acuti** is having another "gig" at the Panama Hotel on Feb. 4th.

PROGRAM

■ **Oak Dowling** was our speaker and **Al Capone** his subject. Born in Brooklyn, New York, to poor Italian immigrants, Capone dropped out of school at age 13, took to the streets, became a bouncer and joined the Cosimo mob. Eventually he became the most famous and sought after mobster in American history.

While flirting with a good looking lady in a nightclub, her suitor pulled a knife on him and slashed the left side of his face. A long scar remained and hence the nickname "Scarface".

PROGRAM (Cont'd)

Al Capone moved to Chicago at the time of prohibition and took over the mob at age 25. During his 6 year reign he oversaw 30,000 speakeasies, promoted jazz and many black performers.

One of his more famous crimes was the Valentine's Day Massacre. He dressed his men in police uniforms and gunned down seven men of the opposing Moran Gang. He was arrested several times, served short prison sentences and was released for good behavior.

Finally an elite group of Chicago business men formed the "Secret Six", and brought criminal charges against him for tax evasion during the years of 1925-1929. He was convicted in 1931, sentenced to eleven years in Federal prison and in addition to fines and court costs was ordered to pay \$125,000 for back taxes plus interest. His appeals were denied and in 1934 Al Capone was transferred to Alcatraz.

After serving 7 1/2 years on the "Rock" he was released and diagnosed with brain damage and syphilis. He subsequently died in Florida in 1947 from a stroke.

His reputation as America's most notorious gangster of the 20th Century remains and has been subject of numerous articles, books, films and legends.

NEXT WEEK

■ **February 9: Robert Heller's** presentation is entitled *The Unlikely Governor*. This is also the title of his book. In a true American odyssey, Belvedere resident Robert Heller chronicles his journey from the caves and cellars of war-ravaged Germany to the United States and his rise as Governor of the Federal Reserve Board and President and CEO of VISA U.S.A.

DICTIONARIES READY FOR DELIVERY



❖ Over 400 dictionaries bound for Mill Valley School District Third Graders were prepared for delivery during a "sticker party" last Friday at the School District offices. Under the leadership of Dictionary Project Chair Cyndi Moore, Mill Valley Rotarians including President Ken, Jean Batman (above), PP Bruce Wrisley, PP Jane Hall (below) and PP Burnett Tregoning (behind the camera), did their best to get the nameplates and 4-Way Test stickers applied properly to each dictionary. Cyndi is looking for a good turnout of volunteers to participate in presentations. Call her and let her know you want to help.



CLUB CALENDAR

■ **February 16:** Our very own **Bob Roberts** will present *Wish You Were Here*, which is also the title of his book. Bob will be talking about the fascinating life and work of his father **Mike Roberts**, which spanned more than 50 years. A self-taught pioneer in the development of color photography and printing, Mike was known as America's Postcard King. His fascination with horseless carriages and carousels led to close personal friendships with **Bill Harrah** and **Walt Disney**.

■ **February 16:** We sponsor the Monthly Mill Valley Chamber Mixer at the Clubhouse. See PP **Susan Royce** for details. *Note: This important event has been*

rescheduled from its original planned date, February 17.

February 23: **Lucy Mercer's** presentation is entitled *The Throckmorton Theatre from Vaudeville to Today*. Lucy founded the Throckmorton Theatre with the belief that the arts are an indispensable part of human inspiration. Her vision was to use the transformative power of the arts to engage, challenge and foster community through provocative cultural and educational exchange. Today her award-winning programs represent all of the cultural arts and attract over 50,000 people to the theatre each year.

March 1: **Brian Sobel**, author of *The Fighting Pattons*, will give us insight into the lives of a famous father-son duo. The father was a legendary hero whose fame had a

profound influence over his son, who was determined to make a mark on his own terms. *The Fighting Pattons* is their story. The elder Patton gained renown during World War II as a fearless commander devoted to his men. A complex figure driven by his knowledge of history and warfare, he was a professional soldier who loved the art of war and hated war itself. The younger Patton also lived an eventful life; he participated in the Berlin Airlift, served in Korea, and proved his valor during three tours of duty in Vietnam.

Always borrow money from a pessimist. He won't expect it back.

**2015-2016
POLIO PLUS
CLUB GOAL
\$2,000**

**JAR TOTAL
AS OF TODAY:
\$919.00**

**2015-2016
SERVICE FUND
(GEORGE HOYLE)
GOAL
\$10,000**

**TOTAL
AS OF TODAY:
\$6,090.00**

**ROTARY
FOUNDATION
GIVING**

**2015-16 GOAL:
\$14,000**

**TOTAL
AS OF TODAY:
\$11,800.00**

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